Production of Silk

6877. SHRI KITHULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is a leading production of raw silk and silk products;

(b) if so, the counties which are competing with India in the international market;

(c) the total production of silk in the country during the last three years: year-wise; and

(d) the quantity of silk consumed in the domestic market and the quanity exported and the value thereof; country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir. India is the second largest producer of silk in the World.

(b) China is our major competitor in the international silk market.

(c) The production of raw silk in the country during the last 3 years is as under:–

Year	*Production of silk (on metric tonnes)*
1989-90	12,016
1990-91	12,665 (Prov.)
1991-92 (upto Dec-91)	8,523 (Prov.)

(d) No raw silk has been exported by India during the last three years. The raw silk produced in the country and imported under various schemes of Export-Import Policy is utilised of production of silk textile products both for domestic & export sectors. The quantity of silk textile products exported during the last three years and foreign exchange earnings thereon are as under:–

Year	*Quanity (in lakh Sq. meter)*	*Value in Rs. crores)*
1989-90	358	392
1990-91	325	436
1991-92 (up to Feb., 92)	350	600

Retirement Age in LIC.

6778. SHRI RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in Life Insurance Corporation, different retirement age has been fixed for different categories of Class-I officers;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;